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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY.

SUBJECT

Rumania

Reorganization of CAROMAN

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SOURCE

- 1. During April 1950, CAROMAN, the Committee for the Assistance of Rumanian Refugees, located at 174, rue de l'Universite in Paris, was reorganized and was placed under the direct control of the Rumanian National Committee in Washington.
- 2. CAROMAN has branches in many countries where there are Rumanian refugees, including Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Greece, Turkey, England, the United States, Brazil, Argentina, and apparently Canada. It is registered as an annex of the International Red Cross which has accorded it de facto recognition and has aided it materially due to personal contacts of a number of the most representative personalitites of the Rumanian Red Cross who happen to be in exile.
- 3. CAROMAN has recently been regarded with a certain amount of mistrust both by Rumanian as well as by foreign circles, because its founder, Nicolae Caranfil, tried to use it as a personal platform. He had refused to give CARONAN a more representative membership by including in the central committee persons who were outside his family circle or small group of friends. Caranfil had not allowed an examination of the funds, even by the members of the committee which he himself had formed. He appointed the members of the central committee and of the committees in foreign countries according to his personal whims.
- The recent reorganization of CAROMAN seems to indicate that it has been placed on a firmer and more serious basis. Henceforth, the Rumanian National Committee in Washington will direct and control all CAROMAN activities and not Caranfil personally and exclusively,
- 5. The new Central Committee of CAROMAN consists of:
 - a. President Raoul Bossy, a former Rumanian minister and former leading member of the Rumanian Red Cross central committee who is a neutral personality without political affiliations and very devoted to King Mihai. Bossy lived for a long time in Switzerland, where he has many close friends both in the Swiss and in the International Red Cross organizations.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- b. Vice-Presidents are Mrs. Alice Praescu, an old and well-known Red Cross member who is not affiliated with any political party or group and who has so far remained independent; and Constantin Antoniade, a former Rumanian minister and Caranfil's brother-in-law, who virtually headed the CAROMAN until the recent reorganization.
- c. Members: General Dumitru (Puiu) Petrescu, who reached Paris in September 1949 after his flight from Rumania through Yugoslavia. Petrescu's ignorance of Rumanian problems abroad led him to actions which placed him in an unfavorable position with the leading Rumanian circles in Paris, but it appears that lately Petrescu has shown a more independent attitude.

Sergescu, a professor of mathematics, has no political affiliations and has engaged in no political activities.

Radu Plessia, former Economic Counsellor of the Rumanian Legation at Vichy, has published two books on Rumanian economy under Soviet control (one in 1947, the other in 1950). He is now the economic counsellor of the Council of Rumanian Folitical Parties. He also writes the economic chronicles in La Nation Roumaine. Plessia had worked closely with Nicolae Caranfil during the period in 1947 when French recognition for CAROMAN was sought and obtained. Soon thereafter, Caranfil replaced Plessia with his brother, Gheorghe Caranfil. The present inclusion of Plessia in CAROMAN may have also been caused by the fact that he knows a number of high-ranking officials of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs well and has, among his personal friends, such personalities as Mme. Bidault. Plessia speaks English and French well. His wife is French but was born in England.

Neagu Djuvara, who has been maintained as Secretary Ceneral of CAROMAN, was a career diplomat. He was Secretary of the Rumanian Legation in Stockholm from 1942 to 1947.

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